

**HAMPTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM  
September 8, 2003 7:00 PM**

**PRESENT:** Brian C. Warburton, Chairman, Virginia Bridle,  
William Sullivan, Cliff Pratt, James Workman  
James Barrington, Town Manager  
Karen Anderson, Administrative Assistant

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

1. The Board of Selectmen held a public hearing to take comments from the public in regard to the Town accepting a Local Law Enforcement Block Grant in the amount of \$15,619.00.

Captain Crotts explained that one of the requirements of the block grant is to solicit input from the public about the use of the grant.

There were no comments from the public.

Mr. Workman confirmed that this is to be used for radios. Mrs. Bridle commended Captain Crotts for his efforts in securing over \$90,000 in grants for the Town of Hampton.

**Mr. Pratt MOTIONED** that the Board of Selectmen accept the grant in the amount of \$15,619.00.

**Mr. Sullivan SECONDED**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**I. SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

Ms. Joanne Fryer led the audience in the salute to the flag.

**II. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

Mr. Pratt reminded the public that the annual Pig Roast for the Historical Society will be held on Saturday at Tuck Field from Noon – 3:00 PM and it is a wonderful family event. The Pig Roast will be followed later that evening at 7:30 PM by an open air movie “Lilo & Stitch” at no cost.

Seafood Festival

Mr. Warburton said that the Seafood Festival was very successful and there were too many people to thank for their efforts. He noted that this morning on Channel 9 at 5:30 AM, Chris Thomas commended all of the people involved with this remarkable event. Mr. Warburton pointed out that the bus transportation was extremely successful and eliminated much of the traffic congestion. The Hampton Police, Fire and Public Works Department did a phenomenal job. Mr. Warburton said that Mr. Sullivan was there all week, throughout most of the nights and demonstrated leadership that helped build the “festival city” and he was commended for his expertise. The volunteers were thanked and it was noted that they were very courteous throughout the weekend.

Cable Committee

Mr. Sullivan noted that the Cable Committee was unable to tape the WHS football game this week due to previous commitments but the Football Boosters were able to supply a volunteer and the game is currently being shown on Channel 22.

Birthday Congratulations

Mr. Warburton wished Mrs. June Bean a happy birthday.

**III. APPOINTMENTS**

1. JoAnn Fryer, CLD Engineers Re: Exeter Road RR Bridge Report

Mrs. Fryer explained the renderings of the proposed Exeter Road bridge and the intersection re-design. As a status update, the conceptual design is essentially complete and she has talked with all of the abutters.

She will be meeting with the abutters as a group to show them the issues that were addressed and explain any concerns that could not be addressed. The town will require some temporary and permanent easements for the construction as well as some property acquisitions. CLD has met with all of the utilities and some design changes were made to limit the impacts for some of the utilities. That work will continue for the next month or two. Ms. Fryer explained that approval is needed from the State Historical Preservation Commission for some of the property acquisition in Depot Square and once that is complete the project can go into final design and schedule the utility relocations. There will be a formal public meeting as required, to allow all of the affected abutters and concerned citizens to make comments, which is likely to be in November. The properties to be acquired are currently being appraised and warrant articles will be put together for approval in March, with construction scheduled for 2005.

The design layout was explained and Ms. Fryer noted that the Depot Clippers and Sanel building will need to be either demolished or relocated. Mr. Barrington said that the appraiser came back with information regarding those buildings and he would like to discuss that with the Board in a non-public session. The Board was asked for input regarding whether or not the existing bridge would be left in place as a pedestrian crossing or other modified use.

Mr. Sullivan said that the towns of Salisbury, MA and Greenland, NH have removed bridges and he is not willing to support the replacement of a railroad bridge for one train per week. He stated he would support an at-grade crossing.

Mrs. Bridle said that it is a beautiful plan, but with the tax bills coming out the shortly, she does not think it is something the Board can support this year. She said that the WHS addition is more important this year. Mr. Warburton concurred and said that he absolutely agrees with an at-grade crossing concept. Mr. Warburton said that the Board is going to need to discuss this further. Mr. Pratt said that this is not the year to fund this project. Mr. Barrington said that the land acquisition is planned for 2004; with the funding for the bridge construction being done in 2005. Mr. Sullivan asked if the same land acquisition would be required for an at-grade crossing. Ms. Fryer said that it would. Mrs. Bridle noted that the town's acquisition of the property would remove it from the tax roles. Mr. Warburton said that for one train a week it does not make sense to replace the bridge. Mr. Sullivan said that there is no question that the bridge needs to be replaced.

Ms. Fryer said that "ballpark" estimates for the bridge reconstruction would be about \$2 million and an at-grade crossing would be \$1.2 to \$1.5 million. She explained that the railroad is extremely opposed to an at-grade crossing and can not run with the type of track that is presently there with an at-grade crossing. There is some construction savings with an at-grade crossing although the federal funding of 80% and state 10% would require them to agree that the at-grade crossing would be safe for this location. Ms. Fryer said that CLD would be willing to work on securing those approvals. She added that it will be a tough sell for that location and did not want to recommend an at-grade crossing because it is not as safe as the bridge alternative. Ms. Fryer said that they are completing a report for the town with both options. Mr. Pratt asked how much of the railroad would have to be upgraded. Ms. Fryer said that the 75' of the crossing area, plus approximately 50' on each side of the road with required gates and lights. Ms. Fryer told the Board that the railroad is opposed to at-grade crossings because it increases their risk of accidents. Mr. Sullivan said that the Operation Lifesaver Program would like to eliminate all at-grade crossings in the country, but pointed out that there is only one train per week at this location.

Mr. Warburton said that after the Board receives the report they will review it and get back to CLD. Ms. Fryer reminded the Board that the railroad has filed for abandonment of that section of the line but the State has said that if the railroad follows through with that, the State will purchase and maintain the line.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS**Town Manager's Report

**Mr. Sullivan MOTIONED** that the Board meet in a non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) and (d) at the conclusion of the public meeting to review the Town Manager's contract and discuss appraisal information on properties.

**Mr. Workman SECONDED**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

September 11 Observances

The American Legion is planning a moment of silence that will be filled by the Fire Department sounding the alarm in four blasts of five as an observance for September 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:45 A.M.

Police Station progress

The pilings continue to be placed at the police station with approximately 2/3 driven. Unital has been working on removing the power poles that cross the site. As long as the weather cooperates, it is expected that the poles will be removed by September 10<sup>th</sup>. Hugh Schweitzer reports that required documents are beginning to fall into place. We expect to have the project schedule and the schedule of values at this week's construction meeting. The list of subcontractors has been submitted to KBA.

Budget Schedule

Budget preparation has occupied the bulk of the Town Manager and Finance Director's time over the past two weeks. A tentative schedule for the budget review by the Board of Selectmen, the Budget Committee, and the Town Meeting was presented for approval. The Board amended the schedule to meet on October 13<sup>th</sup> (Columbus Day) so that it can be televised and retain October 20<sup>th</sup> and additional review time if needed.

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**Board of Selectmen**


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September 15	Executive, Election, Assessing, Tax Collection, MIS, Conservation, Debt, Welfare
September 22	Fire, EMS, Finance & Administration, Human Resources, Legal
September 29	Police, Animal Control, Building Inspection, Planning
October 6	Recreation & Culture, Public Works, Revenues
October 13	Final Review
October 20	Additional Review if necessary

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**Budget Committee**


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November 6	Health Agencies, Welfare
November 13	Recreation & Culture, Library, Cemetery
November 18	Public Works
December 2	Fire, EMS, Civil Defense, Building & Inspection
December 4	Police, Animal Control
December 9	General Government and Revenues
January 13, 2004	Town Warrant Articles
January 15	Town Public Hearing
January 31	Deliberative Session
February 7	Alternate Snow Date for Deliberative Session
March 9	Town Meeting Election Day

Mr. Barrington reported that the Presidential Primary date is tentatively set for January 27, 2004 but has not been confirmed by the State.

Economic Development

Mr. Barrington told the Board that in the on-going preparations for the implementation of the beach infrastructure project, our staff discussions have led us in a number of different directions related to the

processes that must go into the detail planning. One of the key elements of that entire process will be economic development. He has had a brief conversation with each of the Board members about some of the avenues he is exploring and will keep the Board advised of any progress. One of the major concerns of economic development remains the availability of water. The Town Manager reminded the Board that he had previously mentioned water reuse and following conversations with DES, Wright-Pierce Engineers, Aquarian Water, and the Exeter Town Manager, he believes we must fully investigate this as a cost effective alternative to the water shortage that has led to the currently existing moratorium on new water development until new sources can be found. Having the Board of Selectmen on record as supporting the full investigation will be very helpful in continuing that process.

Mr. Workman said that he was a vocal opponent of this but if the technology is there, he would be willing to explore it more. Mr. Sullivan said that a little innovation goes along way and it is worth moving forward. Mrs. Bridle said that it is worth pursuing. Mr. Pratt asked if this would be a joint venture with Aquarian, or is there any benefit to the town's water expenses. Mr. Barrington said that he does think there is some economic benefit for the town as well. He said that they are looking at some joint partnership with Exeter and it can also solve the town's copper problems. Mr. Warburton said that the Town Manager should proceed with this and he supported the rest of the Board. Mr. Pratt said that he would like to explore all avenues for economic development.

#### Visit with Hampton Beach Commission

In anticipation of the inaugural meeting of the Hampton Beach Commission on August 14, the Town Manager reported that he sent a memo to them asking for an invitation to a future meeting. Commission Chairman Jim Workman has now extended that invitation to the Commission's September 18 meeting at the Precinct Hall. We will be preparing some comments to share with the Commission about the developing process of implementing the infrastructure project. Those comments will include discussions of economic development and water supply issues as the foundation. Mr. Pratt said that it is important to improve the beach area and turn it around.

#### Federally Funded Boat Dock

Mr. Barrington reported that he received a call on Thursday from Erin Rath in Senator Gregg's Washington office to notify the town that \$489,000 was being placed in a separate appropriation bill for our Hampton Public Safety Boat Dock. She promised to keep the manager posted on developments, but seemed very optimistic of success on this approach.

Mrs. Bridle asked if this was the same dock that was talked about two weeks ago with a developer. Mr. Barrington said that it is conceivably the same dock, but this is based on the Coast Guard prototype and would add a building for launching and landing out of the weather. Mr. Barrington said that this goes hand in hand with the donation.

#### Temporary Planner

Mr. Barrington told the Board that he along with Mrs. Kimball and Mr. Gillick interviewed prospective candidates for a temporary planner to fill in on a part-time basis during Jennifer Kimball's maternity leave. We have opened negotiations with Mark Fougere to work with us and expect that he will be available Wednesday evening, September 17, to meet with the Planning Board and be introduced.

#### Harbor Dredging

Mr. Barrington reported that he received a call from Mike Welsh, Seabrook Town Manager, this morning explaining that there will be a hearing before the Capital Budgeting Committee on Wednesday morning at 9:30 in Room 201 of the LOB regarding harbor dredging. There is a chance that we can get the harbor dredged this year instead of waiting another two years. The Town Manager will be attending a meeting in Concord at 10:30 that morning, so it may be worthwhile to go earlier and attend the 9:30 meeting as well.

Mr. Sullivan told the Town Manager that he met with Representative Bradley last week and he was shocked to learn how tough it is for the boats to get in and out of the harbor.

2. Acceptance of Access Easement for Harbor Road Connector – Harbor Road at Duston Avenue

Mr. Warburton explained that the required public hearings have been held for the acceptance of this access easement that had been required by the Planning Board for Harbor Road at Duston Avenue.

**Mr. Pratt MOTIONED** that the Board of Selectmen accept the access easement for Harbor Road Connector – Harbor Road to Duston Avenue.

**Mrs. Bridle SECONDED**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**V. NEW BUSINESS**Conservation Commission Appointments

**Mr. Workman MOTIONED** that Peter MacKinnon be appointed as a member of the Conservation Commission to fulfill a term to expire in 2006.

**Mr. Sullivan SECONDED**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**Mr. Workman MOTIONED** that Heather Day be appointed as an alternate member of the Conservation Commission to for a term to expire in 2006.

**Mr. Sullivan SECONDED**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**Mr. Workman MOTIONED** that Charlie Preston be appointed as an alternate member of the Conservation Commission to fulfill a term to expire in 2007.

**Mr. Sullivan SECONDED**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

Cable Committee Appointment

**Mr. Sullivan MOTIONED** that Charlie Tyler be appointed as a member of the Cable Committee to fulfill a term to expire in 2006.

**Mr. Workman SECONDED**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

Acceptance of Marshland Donation

The Board reviewed the donation from Mildred Barteau of a parcel of marshland and the recommendations from the Planning Board and Conservation Commission that the Board of Selectmen accept the donation.

**Mr. Pratt MOTIONED** that the Board of Selectmen hold public hearings on September 22, and October 6, 2003 to take comments on the acceptance of the marshland located at Map 217, Lot 001 as required under RSA 41:14.

**Mrs. Bridle SECONDED**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

Appointment to Mosquito Control Commission

**Mrs. Bridle MOTIONED** that Ann Kaiser be appointed as a member of the Mosquito Control Commission to fulfill a term to expire in 2006.

**Mr. Workman SECONDED**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

Emergency Notification Procedures

Mr. Warburton said that Emergency Notification Procedures have been discussed by the Board several times over the years and he asked to have this back on the agenda for the Board to review what types of calls they would like to receive. Mr. Workman said that he would like to be notified of working fires and incidents that happen in the town that the Board of Selectmen should be aware of, such as the series of drug overdoses that occurred last year. He noted that in that case he understands that they were not notified because the policy pertained to untimely deaths and these deaths occurred outside of Hampton but it is difficult when Board members are confronted with news reports of incidents that they were not aware of. Mr. Barrington said that there was a directive to make a notification call last week, but due to an error only the Chairman was called. Mr. Warburton explained to the Board that he was told that all of the other members would be called, but they were not. Mr. Sullivan said that the policy needs to be kept very simple

because the dispatchers are very busy when there is an emergency. Mr. Barrington said that Chief Wrenn has said that he would like the policy consistent. Mr. Sullivan told the Board that when he was chief he wanted to know about major fires, but did not want to be notified every time a piece of equipment leaves town. Mrs. Bridle said that the Board should be made aware of anything that would reflect on Hampton; if something is going to be on television, the Board should be notified. Mr. Pratt said that he only wants to be called if it is a national emergency. Mr. Warburton suggested that if a message is left for him, one should be left for all Selectmen. Mr. Barrington said that sometimes things that might seem routine to the department may be picked up by a newspaper. The policy will remain as it is and Mr. Barrington assured the Board that adjustments have been made so that the policy is followed correctly.

#### Gazebo

Mrs. Bridle asked about the status of the gazebo. Mr. Barrington said that Attorney Gearreald is completing the hold harmless agreement for the Chamber to sign. Mr. Sullivan asked if the town is cutting the grass there. Mr. Barrington said that he has instructed the Recreation Department to do that. Mr. Sullivan noted that there is a grassed area outside of the sidewalk on Mill Road, north of High Street, that is generally mud and the grass is extremely long. Mr. Barrington will look into correcting that condition.

### **VI. MINUTES**

The minutes of August 25, 2003 were accepted as written.

The minutes of August 28, 2003 were accepted as written.

Mr. Warburton noted that September 11<sup>th</sup> is the United Way "Day of Caring" and as a Liberty Mutual employee he is proud to be taking part in the important day.

#### Parking Meters

Mr. Sullivan reported that the parking meter issue on the side streets has become rather heated at the beach; he stated that it is an idea that is just being explored as a possible revenue source in the future.

#### Playing in Streets

Mrs. Bridle asked that the people on Presidential Circle not use the road as a soccer field. She does not want to face any parent that has had a child hurt.

#### SAU Withdrawal

Mr. Warburton reported that prior to the 7:00 PM School Board meeting on September 15<sup>th</sup> there will be a 6:00 PM public hearing regarding Hampton's withdrawal from SAU 21. The committee has voted to move ahead with the public hearing to recommend that the Hampton School district withdraw from SAU 21. Mr. Warburton stated that a withdrawal would have no impact on where Hampton students go to school. He added that none of the other communities in the SAU vote on this; it will only be on the Hampton ballot. He encouraged residents to come to the public hearing and share their thoughts. After the hearing a report will then be sent to the Department of Education for review prior to insertion on the ballot in March.

#### WHS Building Committee

Mr. Warburton said that the WHS Building Committee has been meeting and the Board of Selectmen has publicly supported the project. He said that an article for the expansion would be coming forth on the ballot again this year.

#### Planning Board Report

Mr. Sullivan told the Board that the Planning Board did not take a re-vote last week on the former Old Salt property pending resolution of the litigation. Mr. Barrington said that the case has been remanded back to the Zoning Board of Adjustment for rehearing. Mr. Sullivan said that Hampton Beach needs some revitalization, and while he is sorry if it has to be near somebody's backyard, but improvements need to be done.

Recreation Advisory Council Report

Mr. Pratt told the Board the Recreation Advisory Council is starting to put together a committee to look into a community center/senior center. Mr. Warburton said that the CIP is being finalized and there is not a lot of projects being recommended for this year.

Budget

Mr. Sullivan asked when the Board of Selectmen will receive the budget. Mr. Barrington said that he expected it to be printed and ready for Friday.

**VII. CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Block Party Request – Hampton Highlands
2. 2002 Timber Tax Warrant
3. Nursing Home Referral
4. Land Lease – 16 P Street

**Mr. Sullivan MOTIONED** that the consent agenda be approved.

**Mr. Workman SECONDED**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**Mr. Sullivan MOTIONED** that the Block Party be approved for Glen Hill.

**Mr. Workman SECONDED**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. Workman MOTIONED** that the meeting be adjourned. ( 8:30 PM)

**Mrs. Bridle SECONDED**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

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Chairman